AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) A shifting device, comprising:

a housing;

a shift lever supported by the housing, wherein the shift lever is moved at least along a first manipulation axis and a second manipulation axis to select one of a plurality of shift positions, the first and second manipulation axes extending in different directions;

a non-contact [[type]] position detecting mechanism for detecting a shift position selected by the shift lever, wherein the position detecting mechanism is formed as a single unit and includes a plurality of detecting devices and a single detection objective device, wherein the relative positions between the detecting devices and the detection objective device are variable, wherein the position detecting mechanism detects the selected shift position according to the relative positions; and

a moving mechanism, wherein, according to movement of the shift lever, the moving mechanism moves at least one of the group of the detecting devices and the detection objective device at least along a first movement axis and a second movement axis, the first and second movement axes extending in different directions.

2. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 1, wherein each detecting device outputs two different types of signals according to the relative positions between the detecting devices and the detection objective device, wherein the detection objective device is formed such that a combination pattern of signals outputted by the detecting devices is changed according to the selected shift position, and wherein the detection objective device is formed such that, even is one of the detecting devices malfunctions, the combination pattern of the remainder of the detecting device is changed according to the selected shift position.

3. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 2, wherein the detection objective device is formed such that the signals outputted when the shift lever is at a forward position are different from the signals outputted when the shift lever is at a reverse position.

4. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 1, wherein the moving mechanism includes a first holder and a second holder, wherein the first holder accommodates one of the group of the detecting devices and the detection objective device and allows the accommodated devices or device to move along the first movement axis, and wherein the second holder accommodates the first holder and allows the first holder to move along the second movement axis.

5. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 4, wherein, when the shift lever is moved along the first manipulation axis, the detecting devices or the detection objective device are moved along the first movement axis in the first holder.

6. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 5, wherein the first manipulation axis is parallel to the first movement axis.

7. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 4, wherein, when the shift lever is moved along the second manipulation axis, the first holder is moved relative to the second holder along the second movement axis.

8. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 7, wherein the second manipulation axis is different from the second movement axis.

9. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 1, wherein, when the shift lever is moved along the first manipulation axis, the moving mechanism moves at least one of the group of the detecting devices and the detection objective device along the first movement axis, and wherein, when the shift lever is moved along the second manipulation axis, the moving mechanism moves at least one of the group of the detecting devices and the detection objective device along the second movement axis.

10. (Currently Amended) The shifting device according to claim 1, wherein the position detecting mechanism is of a magnetic [[type]] position detecting mechanism.

11. (Original) The shifting device according to claim 10, wherein the detecting devices are Hall elements, and the detection objective device is a magnet.

12-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) The shifting device according to claim 1, wherein, according to movement of the shift lever, the moving mechanism moves one of the group of the detecting devices and the

detection objective device relative to the other in a single plane including the first and second movement axes.

22. (New) The shifting device according to claim 21, wherein, according to movement of the shift lever, the moving mechanism moves the detection objective device relative to the group of the detecting devices in the single plane.